

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, For over 3,400 blind and visually impaired South Dakota pedestrians, a long, white cane, a white cane tipped with red, or a collared guide dog are the media that transforms walking from a chore to a pleasure; and,

WHEREAS, To the sighted driver, these special accoutrements serve as persuasive reminders that certain precautions must be taken; and,

WHEREAS, According to South Dakota law, if a pedestrian with a guide dog or an extended white cane is attempting to cross a public street or highway, it is the driver's duty to come to a full stop before reaching the crossing spot; and,

WHEREAS, Before proceeding, the driver must then take special care to avoid hurting the pedestrian; and,

WHEREAS, Like all pedestrians, the blind and visually handicapped have certain rights. But as the South Dakota Association for the Blind reminds us, "The white cane has the right-of-way"; and,

WHEREAS, It is essential that all sighted walkers, joggers, bikers, and drivers give special consideration to the blind or visually handicapped person who is on foot. For while they were not looking to be pitied, they do appreciate your understanding and help; and,

WHEREAS, By obeying the laws, you keep yourself and your blind friends from getting into trouble:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 15 through May 21, 1983, as

WHITE CANE WEEK

In South Dakota.



ATTEST:

Alice Kundert
ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Three

William J. Janklow
WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

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